

2. Claim Amendments

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) A co-browsing system, comprising:
 - (a) a network comprising an interconnected web server computer, vendor computer, and customer computer;
 - (b) ~~a web service hosted at said web server computer, wherein said web service comprises:~~
 - (i) ~~a standard web site accessible by said customer computer and comprising a plurality of standard web pages;~~
 - (ii) ~~a customer co-browsing web site accessible by said customer computer and comprising a plurality of customer co-browsing web pages, wherein each of said customer co-browsing web pages is identical in appearance from a customer's point of view to one of said standard web pages, and said customer co-browsing web site further comprises a polling routine operable to poll for change events transmitted from said vendor computer while said customer co-browsing web site is accessed at said customer computer; and~~
 - (iii) ~~a vendor co-browsing web site accessible by said vendor computer and comprising a plurality of vendor co-browsing web pages, wherein at least one of said vendor co-browsing web pages corresponds to one of said customer co-browsing~~

web pages, and wherein said vendor co-browsing web site comprises an event handler operable to collect and transmit vendor co-browsing web site change events received from said vendor computer to said customer computer in order to synchronize a currently accessed vendor co-browsing web page with a currently accessed customer co-browsing web page, wherein said vendor co-browsing web site change events each comprise a change event identifier that identifies a control on said vendor co-browsing web page that has changed, and a change event value that identifies the new value of the control on said vendor co-browsing web page that has changed; and

- (b) a standard web site hosted at said web server, accessible by said customer computer, and comprising a plurality of standard web pages;
- (c) a customer co-browsing web site hosted at said web server, accessible by said customer computer, and comprising a plurality of customer co-browsing web pages, wherein each of said customer co-browsing web pages is identical in appearance from a customer's point of view to one of said standard web pages, and said customer co-browsing web site further comprises a polling routine operable to poll said vendor computer for change events

transmitted from said vendor computer while said customer co-browsing web site is accessed at said customer computer;

(d) a vendor co-browsing web site hosted at said web server, accessible by said vendor computer, and comprising a plurality of vendor co-browsing web pages, wherein at least one of said vendor co-browsing web pages corresponds to one of said customer co-browsing web pages, and wherein said vendor co-browsing web site comprises an event handler operable to collect and transmit vendor co-browsing web site change events received from said vendor computer to said customer computer in order to synchronize a currently accessed vendor co-browsing web page with a currently accessed customer co-browsing web page, wherein said vendor co-browsing web site change events each comprise a change event identifier that identifies a control on said vendor co-browsing web page that has changed, and a change event value that identifies the new value of the control on said vendor co-browsing web page that has changed; and

(e)(e) a data store in communication with said web service vendor co-browsing web site, wherein said data store is operable to store said vendor co-browsing web site change events.

2. (cancelled)
3. (cancelled)
4. (cancelled)

5. (cancelled)
6. (currently amended) A method for initiating a co-browsing session utilizing a web server computer, a vendor computer, and a customer computer, comprising the steps of:
 - (a) providing a data entry web page from ~~a web service hosted at the~~ web server computer to a first web browser executing on the customer computer while said first web browser is navigating a first web site;
 - (b) receiving an activation event at the web ~~service~~ server from the first web browser;
 - (c) providing a contact web page from the web ~~service~~ server to the first web browser, wherein the contact web page comprises a session identifier;
 - (d) receiving at a second web browser executing on the vendor computer the session identifier and launching at said second web browser a second web site;
 - (e) transmitting the session identifier to the web ~~service~~ server; and
 - (f) providing a web page from a third web site from the web ~~service~~ server to the first web browser, and a web page from the second web site from the web ~~service~~ server to the second web browser, where the web pages from the first and third web pages are identical in appearance to an operator of the first web browser, and wherein the second web site comprises an event handler operable

to transmit a change event, and the third web site comprises a polling routine operable to poll for change events at the second web browser while the second and third web sites are simultaneously being accessed in order to synchronize a currently accessed web page at the second web site with a currently accessed web page at the third web site.

7. (previously amended) The method of claim 6, wherein the data entry web page comprises a request assistance link, and the activation event is associated with the request assistance link.

8. (original) The method of claim 7, wherein the contact web page comprises contact information.

9. (original) The method of claim 8, wherein the contact information comprises a telephone number.

10. (currently amended) The method of claim 9, further comprising the step of providing a session identifier entry web page from the web ~~service~~ server to the second web browser.

11. (cancelled)

12. (currently amended) A co-browsing method utilizing a web server computer ~~comprising a web service~~, a vendor computer, and a customer computer, comprising the steps of:

- (a) from the web ~~service operating on the web~~ server computer, transferring a first contact web page of a first web site to a first web browser operating on the customer computer;

- (b) displaying at a second web browser operating on the vendor computer a session ID entry page of a second web site;
- (c) receiving a session ID at the session ID entry page;
- (d) redirecting the first web browser from the first web site to a third web site, wherein each of the first and third web sites comprise at least one web page that are identical in appearance to each other;
- (e) receiving at the second web browser a change event representing a change to at least one control visible in the second web site, wherein the change event comprises a change event identifier that identifies the control that has changed, and a change event value that identifies the value of the change that has occurred to the control;
- (f) transmitting the change event from the second web browser to the web service server computer;
- (g) repeatedly initiating a polling request from the third web site to the web service server computer for a change event at the second web browser while the first and third web sites are both being accessed;
- (h) transmitting the change event from the web service server computer to the third web site in response to the polling request in order to synchronize a currently accessed web page at the second web site with a currently accessed web page at the third web site; and

- (i) storing said change event in a data store in communication with the web service server computer.
- 13. (cancelled)
- 14. (cancelled)
- 15. (currently amended) A co-browsing system, comprising:
 - (a) a computer network;
 - (b) a vendor computer connected to said network and comprising an Internet browser;
 - (c) a customer computer connected to said network by means of at least one standard Internet port and comprising a standard Internet browser;
 - (d) a web server computer connected to said network, wherein said web server computer comprises:
 - (i) a standard web site accessible by said customer computer Internet browser and comprising a plurality of standard web pages;
 - (ii) a customer co-browsing web site accessible by said customer computer Internet browser and comprising a plurality of customer co-browsing web pages, wherein each of said customer co-browsing web pages is identical in appearance to one of said standard web pages, and said customer co-browsing web site further comprises a polling routine operable to poll said vendor co-browsing web site for

change events at the vendor computer Internet browser while said customer computer is accessing said customer co-browsing web site but not while said customer computer is accessing said standard web site; and

- (iii) a vendor co-browsing web site accessible by said vendor computer Internet browser and comprising a plurality of vendor co-browsing web pages, wherein each of said vendor co-browsing web pages corresponds to one of said customer co-browsing web pages, and wherein said vendor co-browsing web site comprises an event handler operable to collect vendor co-browsing web site change events received through said vendor computer Internet browser and transmit vendor co-browsing web site change events to said web server in order to synchronize a currently accessed vendor co-browsing web page with a currently accessed customer co-browsing web page, wherein said vendor co-browsing web site change events each comprise a change event identifier that identifies a control on said vendor co-browsing web site that has changed, and a change event value that identifies the new value of the control on said vendor co-browsing web site that has changed; and

(e) a data store in communication with said web server computer,
wherein said data store is operable to store said vendor co-
browsing web site change events,
wherein said vendor computer and said customer computer are operable
to communicate with each other only by means of said web page server
over said network through said standard Internet port of said customer
computer.

- 16. (cancelled)
- 17. (cancelled)
- 18. (cancelled)
- 19. (cancelled)